

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 121351

61

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SEC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /068 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:WHMANGER/LD

APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE

EUR/WE:REBARBOUR

SEC:MR. TINNEMY

----- 043343

P 232114Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NL, US

SUBJECT: DUTCH QUERY ON ALLEGATIONS AGAINST NORTHROP

1. NETHERLANDS CHARGE VAN AERSSSEN CALLED ON ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE MAY 22 UNDER INSTRUCTIONS WITH FOLLOWING REQUEST: A MEMBER OF THE SECOND CHAMBER HAS ASKED THE GOVERNMENT IF IT WERE WILLING TO CONTACT THE U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) TO ASCERTAIN QUOTE WHETHER ANY INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE THAT BRIBES HAVE BEEN PAID IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHOICE OF THE SUCCESSOR OF THE F-104 BY PERSONS RELATED TO NORTHROP TO DUTCH CITIZENS WHO ARE IN A POSITION TO INFLUENCE THE CHOICE IN FAVOR OF A CANDIDATE OF THAT FACTORY, THE YF-17 COBRA? UNQUOTE VAN AERSSSEN EXPLAINED THAT THE ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN A MAY 5 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE THAT VARIOUS US CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING NORTHROP, HAD BRIBED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAD APPEARED IN THE DUTCH PRESS AND HAD PERHAPS PROMPTED THIS QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT. VAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 121351

AERSSSEN RECALLED THAT SIMILAR ALLEGATIONS HAD APPEARED

LAST YEAR CONCERNING FRENCH ACTIVITIES. HE FEARED THAT THE CURRENT CONTROVERSY MIGHT DELAY THE GON'S F-104 DECISION AND EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO SET THE MATTER STRAIGHT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. ARMITAGE SAID THAT TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THE SEC WAS NOT CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST NORTHROP. RESPONDING TO VAN AERSSSEN'S QUERY HE ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE EMBASSY'S CONTACTING THE SEC DIRECTLY TO GET THE FACTS OF THE CASE. IN FACT, GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE INTERPELLATION, THIS SEEMED THE BEST WAY TO PROCEED. THE DEPARTMENT WILL HELP PUT THE EMBASSY IN TOUCH WITH THE SEC.

3. VAN AERSSSEN WAS SUBSEQUENTLY GIVEN THE NAME OF THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL AT THE SEC AND WAS ENCOURAGED TO PURSUE THE QUESTION DIRECTLY WITH HIM.

4. FYI: DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED THAT THE SEC FILED A CIVIL INJUNCTIVE ACTION AGAINST NORTHROP IN EARLY MAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE ALLEGED IMPROPER USE OF CORPORATE FUNDS BY THE COMPANY'S EUROPEAN CONSULTANT, A MR. SAVY (FRENCH CITIZEN), NO LONGER RETAINED BY NORTHROP, WHO ALLEGEDLY CHANNELED FUNDS BACK TO THE US FOR USE AS ILLEGAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS. NORTHROP CONSENTED TO THE SEC INJUNCTION AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS RETAINED A WASHINGTON LAW FIRM TO CONDUCT AN IN-HOUSE INVESTIGATION OF THESE ALLEGATIONS. THE FIRM'S REPORT IS TO BE SUBMITTED BY JULY 20 TO THE BOARD AND TO THE SEC, AT WHICH TIME THE SEC MAY CONDUCT ITS OWN INVESTIGATION. END FYI. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, BRIBERY, ALLEGATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE121351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WHMANGER/LD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750182-0435
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750522/aaaaatgt.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DUTCH QUERY ON ALLEGATIONS AGAINST NORTHROP
TAGS: PFOR, NL, US, NORTHROP
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006